



The Chapels Royal of St Peter ad Vincula and St John the Evangelist
HM Tower of London

Dear friends,



I'm writing this on Monday in Holy Week. Yesterday was Palm Sunday. As we processed in witness across the Broad Walk here at the Tower of London, joyfully singing *All glory laud and honour to thee Redeemer King* with our palm crosses held high, we once again began our spiritual journey towards Easter Sunday. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us this Easter Sunday, the most important day in the Christian calendar.

Easter Sunday is also our State Parade when, led by the Governor of the Tower of London, representatives of the Yeoman Body, in their full livery, will join our service. The procession of Beefeaters will also be recorded by Channel 5 for the next series of *Inside the Tower*.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and, as we will say on Easter Sunday: **Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Holy Week is a very busy time in the life of the Tower of London. This week there has not been a day when fewer than 10,000 people have been booked in, let alone those who buy a ticket at the Ticket Office on the day! This, not surprisingly, puts a huge amount of stress on all the staff and I gather that 11,500 people will have visited the Tower today alone. Please keep those working here in your thoughts.

With my best wishes and prayers for you all, Roger.

Notices

- There will be no services on 16th April; they will resume on 23rd April. Please note that 23rd April is also Marathon Sunday and road access to the Tower will be severely restricted.
- Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to this year's Easter flowers. People have been very generous and I believe we now have enough money for flowers for the Coronation weekend and beyond.
- There will be no Newsletter after Easter until the week beginning 24th April.

Poem of the week

Services Details for Sunday 9th April 2023, Easter Sunday

Alleluia! Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

0915 Holy Communion, White Tower

1100 Holy Communion and State Parade, St Peter ad Vincula

Readings

Colossians 3: 1-7.

John 20: 1-18.

Collect for Easter Sunday

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten
Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened
unto us the gate of everlasting life; We humbly
beseech thee, that, as by thy special grace preventing
us thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good
effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and
reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God,
world without end. **Amen.**

George Herbert was an English poet, orator and priest. He was Rector of Fugglestone St Peter and St Andrew at Bemerton, both near Salisbury, until he died at the age of only 39 from consumption. Many of his works have become some of the Church of England's best loved poems and hymns. Easter Wings is a simple yet moving Christian poem which addresses the fall of man and the speaker's desire to rise. It was originally printed sideways on facing pages of his collection of poems The Temple, published in 1633. By using the physical shape of a bird's wings, Herbert tries to emphasise the nature of the fall and rise the speaker is experiencing, and thus lead to the hope of the Resurrection.

Easter Wings

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
Though foolishly he lost the same,
Decaying more and more,
Till he became
Most poore:
With thee
O let me rise
As larks, harmoniously,
And sing this day thy victories:
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did beginne
And still with sicknesses and shame.
Thou didst so punish sinne,
That I became
Most thinne.
With thee
Let me combine,
And feel thy victorie:
For, if I imp my wing on thine,
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

George Herbert 1593-1633

Tracy's Garden

Sam with anemones.



Holy Week and Easter Services

Thursday 6th April – Maundy Thursday

1900 Holy Communion

Chapel of St John the Evangelist

The Bishop of London, Dean of the Chapels Royal, will be attending

Friday 7th April– Good Friday

1900 Liturgy of the Cross

Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula

Sunday 9th April - Easter Sunday

‘He is risen, he is risen indeed, Halleluiah’

0915 Holy Communion

Chapel of St John the Evangelist

1100 Easter State Parade

Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula

Daily Prayers for the Coronation

<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9781781404119/daily-prayers-for-the-coronation-of-king-charles-iii-single-copy>



Little Amal visits the Tower of London.

Little Amal is the 12-foot puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee child at the heart of The Walk. She has become a global symbol of human rights, especially those of refugees.

Since July 2021, Amal has travelled over 9,000km in 13 countries and been welcomed by more than a million people on the street, including hundreds of artists and civil society and faith leaders, as well as by tens of millions online. Her journeys are festivals of art and hope that draw attention to the huge numbers of children fleeing war, violence and persecution, each with their own story. Her urgent message to the world is “Don’t forget about us”.

<https://www.walkwithamal.org/>

Jigsaw – Little Amal at Tower Green

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=32296120caf3>



Historic Royal Palaces – Anne Boleyn's prayer book

This manuscript Book of Hours belonging to Anne Boleyn is now on display at Hampton Court Palace. You can see the book, temporarily loaned from Hever Castle & Gardens, in the Chapel Royal alongside Queen Elizabeth I's Book of Common Prayer.



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Norma, Ann, Ros, Mark, Madeleine, Dan, Derek, Colin, Ian, Patti, Florence, Bridget, Christopher and Veronica.

RIP

John Dailly, Alan Stern and Joe Loveday.

Please continue to pray for Ukraine:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of peace. Amen

With best wishes to all, Roger.



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